translation of its textbooks is undertaken by NCERT, the Bureau for the Promotion of Urdu also assists in printing them. The States/Boards of Schools/Secondary Education are free to adopt and prescribe these books for use in their schools.

Whether the task of printing and publishing of Urdu textbooks can be assigned to State Urdu Academies would have to be considered by the State Education Departments.

Losses to Madras Port Trust properties

1833. SHRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether assessment has been made about the damages to the Port Trust properties, stores cargoes etc. in the Madras harbour due to recent floods and rains;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof: and

(c) what were the details of precautionary steps taken by the Port authorities on the receipt of warnings from the Metereological Department?

THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT (SHRI BANSI LAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Assessment of damages to the equipments, accessories and civil works of the Port Trust due to recent floods and rains has been made and details thereof are given below:

	Amount Rs.
1. Cost of damages to civil works	79,000
2. Cost of accessories of electrical and mechanical Department damaged	1,84,700
3. Cost of medical surgical stores items and accessories damaged	33,725
TOTAL	Rs. 2,97.425

(c) The Port Trust had taken the following preventive measures:—

(i) Checking of cables, pillar boxes, plug boxes, drainages, bolts and nuts of roofing sheets, fenders on the quays, etc. in order to avoid damage during cyclone period.

(ii) All land based equipments like cranes, ship-loaders etc. were secured properly. All ports Flotilla were anchored and moored in the boat basin.

(iii) Electrical power supply in vulnerable sections were switched off. Stand-by generators was kept ready for operation with enough fuel and personnel. Stand-by vehicles were kept ready for quick transport of staff and employees for remedial measures during rain.

(iv) Cyclone manual detailing actions to be taken by the respective divisions during the time of heavy rain and cyclone was issued long before the cyclone period.

(v) Round-the clock postings were made and control-room activities were geared up. Parallel communication network like wireless was kept ready.

Losses to Southern Railways due to floods

1834. SHRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of losses suffered by the Southern Railways due to floods during November, 1985;

(b) by when the normal train services between Villupuram and Madras are likely to be resumed; and

(c) the total loss of earnings due to disruption of train services on that account?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) The total loss suffered by Southern Railway as a result of damage to track, bridges, overhead electrical equipment and signalling gear is approximately Rs. 8.62 crores.